

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-06

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R 261625Z FEB 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:PFOR, US, RH

SUBJECT: STATEMENT ON RHODESIA

REF: NAIROBI 1808

1. POSTS SHOULD NOT GO BEYOND LANGUAGE USED BY DEPARTMENT
SPOKESMAN ON FEBRUARY 20, AS TRANSMITTED BY WIRELESS FILE.

2. FYI - QUOTES USED BY DAILY NATION AND REPORTED REFTTEL
ALSO APPEARED IN EARLY EDITIONS OF LEADING US PAPERS SUCH
AS WASHINGTON POST AND NEW YORK TIMES; LATER EDITIONS DID
NOT CARRY THEM.

3. DURING A PRESS CONFERENCE IN BRASILIA ON FEB. 21 SECRE-
TARY KISSINGER RESPONDED TO A QUESTION AS FOLLOWS:

4. Q: LENILDO TABNSA PESSOA, O EXPRESSO: MY QUESTION, TO
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SOME EXTENT, REPEATS THAT MY COLLEAGUE CARLOS CONDE OF THE

ESTADO DE SAO PAULO, BUT I WILL ASK ANYWAY, BECAUSE I WOULD LIKE TO OBTAIN A MORE EXPLICIT ANSWER IF POSSIBLE. YOU STATED THURSDAY, ON THE QUESTION OF THE SOVIET-CUBAN INTERVENTION IN ANGOLA, THAT THE UNITED STATES HAD DECIDED, AS A QUESTION OF PRINCIPLE, TO RESIST SUCH DANGEROUS AND IRRESPONSIBLE ACTIONS. SHOULD IT BE UNDERSTOOD THAT THE

UNITED STATES WILL RESIST THE NEXT SOVIET-CUBAN INTERVENTION IN AFRICA MILITARILY, OR THAT THE US WILL VEHEMENTLY PROTEST WITH WORDS ONLY, AND WILL CALL A NEW HELSINKI CONFERENCE AIMING AT SANCTIFYING THE INVIOABILITY OF THE BORDERS ESTABLISHED BY THE SOVIET UNION AND CUBA IN AFRICA?

A: OF COURSE, I JUST WANT THE QUESTIONER TO KNOW THAT I UNDERSTOOD THE SARCASM OF THE QUESTION. BUT, FIRST OF ALL I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE CLEAR THAT THE HELSINKI DECLARATION DEALT EXCLUSIVELY WITH EUROPE. SECONDLY, AND BEFORE I GET TO THE SPECIFIC QUESTION, THE UNITED STATES HAS PURSUED A TWO-PRONGED POLICY. IT HAS ATTEMPTED TO MODERATE POTENTIALLY AGGRESSIVE CONDUCT, BY ESTABLISHING CERTAIN INTERNATIONAL CODES OR PRINCIPLES TO WHICH NATIONS SHOULD ADHERE. BUT WE HAVE NEVER HAD ANY ILLUSIONS THAT SIMPLE DECLARATIONS OF OBJECTIVES CAN BE A SUBSTITUTE FOR GEOPOLITICAL INEQUALITIES. AND THEREFORE SIDE BY SIDE WITH ATTEMPTING TO BRING ABOUT A MORE CONCILLIATORY WORLD, WE HAVE DONE OUR UTMOST TO MAKE SURE THAT THE WORLD IN WHICH WE LIVE, WHICH IS NOT FULLY CONCILLIATORY, DOES NOT PROVIDE TEMPTATIONS FOR AGGRESSION. AND AGAIN I WOULD LIKE TO CALL YOUR ATTENTION TO THE FACT THAT IF YOU LOOK AT THE NATURE OF OUR DEBATE IN AMERICA YOU WILL FIND THAT THE CONCERNS ARE EXPRESSED ON BOTH OF THESE POINTS. ON BOTH THE POINT OF ATTEMPTING TO RESIST, AND ON THE POINT OF TRYING TO CREATE A NEW ENVIRONMENT. WE DO BELIEVE THAT WE CANNOT STAND FOR EXPANSIONISM. BUT WE ALSO BELIEVE THAT A CONSTANT ATTEMPT TO BALANCE FORCES WILL SOONER OR LATER LEAD TO A CONFRONTATION AND, THEREFORE, WE WANT TO MOVE TO A NEW SET OF ARRANGEMENTS. AND HELSINKI SHOULD BE SEEN IN THAT CONTEXT, WITHOUT ILLUSION. NOW, WITH RESPECT TO YOUR SPECIFIC QUESTION. I THINK YOU WILL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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UNDERSTAND THAT IT WOULD NOT BE APPROPRIATE FOR A SECRETARY OF STATE TO DESCRIBE EXACTLY WHAT WE WOULD DO IN CIRCUMSTANCES THAT HAVE NOT YET ARISEN, THAT CANNOT BE FORETOLD. BUT IT WOULD BE OUR DETERMINATION TO DO WHAT IS EFFECTIVE, AND NOT TO HAVE A POST-MORTEM ON A FAILURE, BUT TO DO WHAT IS NECESSARY TO PREVENT THE SUCCESS OF ANOTHER SIMILAR EFFORT. INGERSOLL

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